

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

ALAN DECKER,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	
vs.)	CIVIL NO. 07-147-WDS
)	
RONALD BARNHARTT, BRAD J.)	
ROBERT and ROGER WALKER,)	
)	
Defendants.)	

MEMORANDUM AND ORDER

STIEHL, District Judge:

This action is before the Court to rule on Plaintiff's motion to reconsider (Doc. 8). Technically, a "Motion to Reconsider" does not exist under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The Seventh Circuit has held, however, that a motion challenging the merits of a district court order will automatically be considered as having been filed pursuant to Rule 59(e) or Rule 60(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. *See, e.g., Mares v. Busby*, 34 F.3d 533, 535 (7th Cir. 1994); *United States v. Deutsch*, 981 F.2d 299, 300 (7th Cir. 1992). As noted in *Deutsch*, "in cases where it is unclear whether a motion challenging a judgment on the merits is made under Rule 59(e) or Rule 60(b)," the date of service will determine how the motion will be treated. Thus, "if the motion is served within ten days of the rendition of judgment, the motion falls under Rule 59(e); if it is served after that time, it falls under Rule 60(b)." *Id.* (citations omitted).

Judgment was entered in this action on April 12, 2007, and the instant motion was filed on

April 24, within the 10-day period.¹ See FED.R.CIV.P. 59(e). Therefore, under *Deutsch*, the Court will construe the motion as a motion to alter or amend judgment, filed pursuant to Rule 59(e), which may only be granted if a movant shows there was mistake of law or fact or presents newly discovered evidence that could not have been discovered previously. *Matter of Prince*, 85 F.3d 314 (7th Cir. 1996), *reh'g and suggestion for reh'g en banc denied, cert. denied* 117 S.Ct. 608; *Deutsch v. Burlington Northern R. Co.*, 983 F.2d 741 (7th Cir. 1993).

Upon review of the record, the Court remains persuaded that its ruling dismissing the case pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915A was correct. Therefore, the instant motion is **DENIED**.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: May 14, 2007.

s/ WILLIAM D. STIEHL
DISTRICT JUDGE

¹ See *Edwards v. United States*, 266 F.3d 756, 758 (7th Cir. 2001) (Rule 59(e) motion filed by an inmate is deemed “filed” at the moment of delivery to the prison authorities).